

Stone Well-House of Matthew P. Bogert
Orchard Road
Demarest, Bergen County, New Jersey

HABS-NJ-428

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, F.A.I.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

Stone Well-House of Matthew P. Bogert
Orchard Road
Demarest, Bergen County, New Jersey

Owner: Mayfair Garden Realty Company

Date of Erection: 1766

Architect:

Builder: Matthew P. Bogert

Present Condition: Fair

Number of Stories: Single story dome-shape structure

Materials of Construction: Red sandstone and field-
stone, laid up in clay
and later pointed with
cement

Historical Data:

This structure was built over a spring. There are many stories told in connection with it. It is claimed that during Washington's retreat across New Jersey in 1776 an attempt was made to poison the well while General Putnam and his army were encamped nearby. A British spy was also reputed to have been captured in the well by General Greene's men on their march to Hackensack. Cornwallis encamped here in his pursuit of Washington.

The old well-house remained in the Bogert family for many years. This and the surrounding property was sold to the Mayfair Garden Realty Company in 1935.

Matthew P. Bogert, the builder of the well-house, was a descendant of an old Dutch family by the name of Baugaerdt. He was of the third generation in America. His first ancestors came in 1663. Matthew P. Bogert bought two hundred and fifty acres of land of Bernardus Van Valen south of Closter in January 1740. Upon this tract he erected a house on the east side of the old road leading to Piermont.

Bibliography:

Harvey, C. B. Geneological History of Hudson and Bergen Counties, New Jersey
New York, Geneological Publishing Company, 1900

Information gathered locally by Wallace Dunlop, Bergen County Office

Walter C. Holt

Supervising Historian

Approved:

Seymour Williams

SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, F.A.I.A.
District Officer

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